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**Gamma-ray Large Area Space Telescope**  
**(GLAST)**  
**Large Area Telescope (LAT)**  
**Anticoincidence Detector (ACD)**  
**Subsystem Specification**

## CHANGE HISTORY LOG

| Revision | Effective Date | Description of Changes | DCN # |
|----------|----------------|------------------------|-------|
| 1        |                | Initial Release        |       |
|          |                |                        |       |
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|          |                |                        |       |
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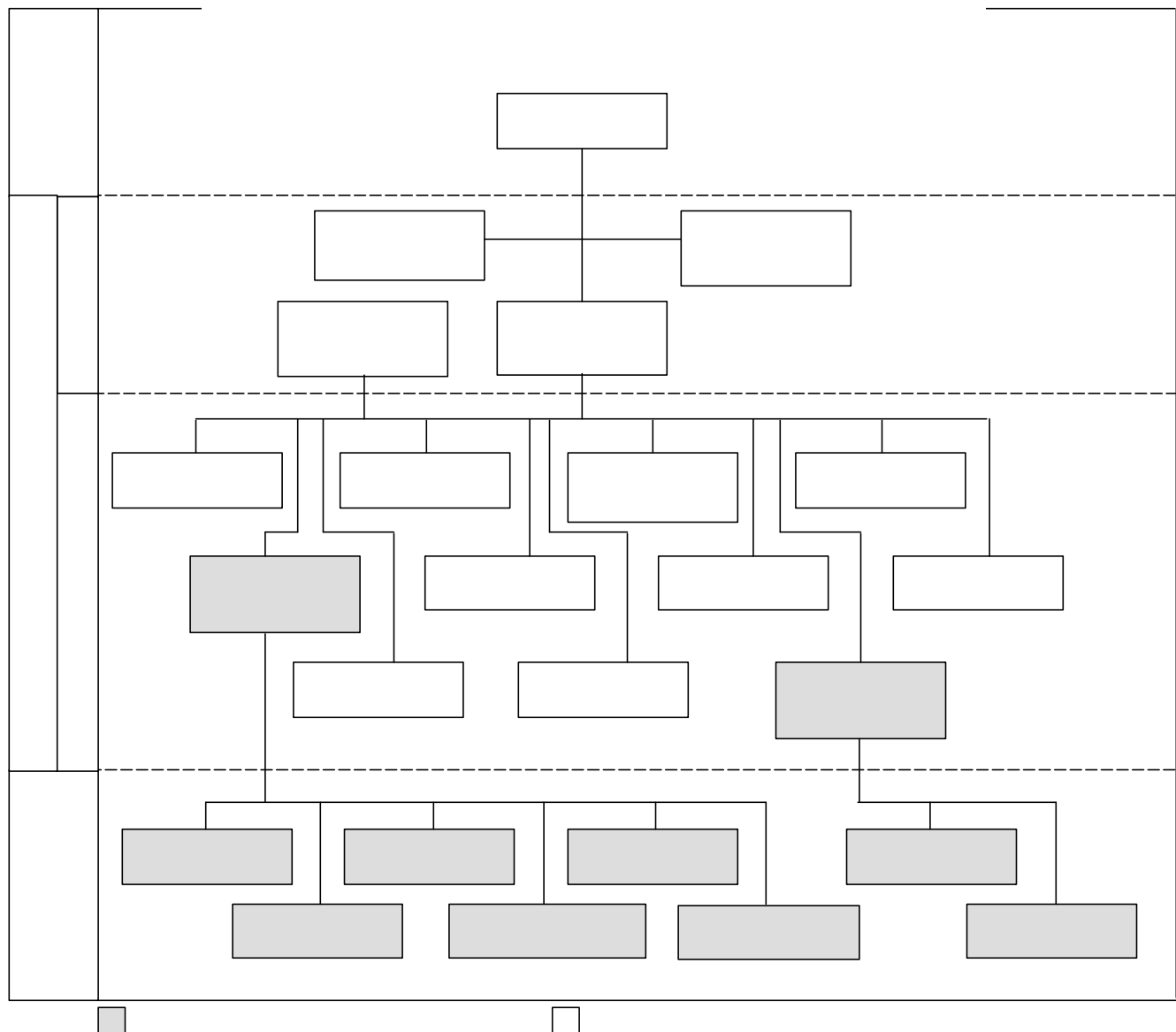
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## 1 PURPOSE

This document defines level III subsystem requirements for the GLAST Large Area Telescope (LAT) Anticoincidence Detector (ACD).

## 2 SCOPE

This specification captures the GLAST LAT requirements for the ACD. This encompasses the subsystem level requirements and the design requirements for the ACD. The verification methods of each requirement are identified.



This specification is identified in the specification tree of Figure 2-1.

### 3 DEFINITIONS

#### 3.1 Acronyms

EDAQ – Electronics and Data Acquisition Subsystem

FOV – Field of View

GLAST – Gamma-ray Large Area Space Telescope

IOC – Instrument Operations Center

IRD – Interface Requirements Document

LAT – Large Area Telescope

MIP – Minimum Ionizing Particle (see definition below)

MSS – Mission System Specification

PI – Principal Investigator

SAS – Science Analysis Software

SI/SC IRD – Science Instrument – Spacecraft Interface Requirements Document

SRD – Science Requirements Document

SSC – Science Support Center

TBR – To Be Resolved

TEM - Tower Electronics Module

#### 3.2 Definitions

$\mu\text{sec}$ ,  $\mu\text{s}$  – Microsecond,  $10^{-6}$  second

Analysis – A quantitative evaluation of a complete system and /or subsystems by review/analysis of collected data.

Background Rejection – The ability of the instrument to distinguish gamma rays from charged particles.

Backsplash – Secondary particles and photons originating from very high-energy gamma-ray showers in the calorimeter giving unwanted ACD signals.

cm – centimeter

Cosmic Ray - Ionized atomic particles originating from space and ranging from a single proton up to an iron nucleus and beyond.

Dead Time – Time during which the instrument does not sense and/or record gamma ray events during normal operations.

Demonstration – To prove or show, usually without measurement of instrumentation, that the project/product complies with requirements by observation of results.

eV – Electron Volt

Field of View – Integral of effective area over solid angle divided by peak effective area.

GeV – Giga Electron Volts.  $10^9$  eV

Inspection – To examine visually or use simple physical measurement techniques to verify conformance to specified requirements.

MeV – Million Electron Volts,  $10^6$  eV

Minimum Ionizing Particle – The mean signal from cosmic ray produced air shower muons at sea level normally incident on a scintillator tile. It corresponds to approximately 1.9 MeV per cm of scintillator.

nsec – Nanosecond,  $10^{-9}$  second

ph – photons

s, sec – seconds

Simulation – To examine through model analysis or modeling techniques to verify conformance to specified requirements

Testing – A measurement to prove or show, usually with precision measurements or instrumentation, that the project/product complies with requirements.

Validation – Process used to assure the requirement set is complete and consistent, and that each requirement is achievable.

Verification – Process used to ensure that the selected solutions meet specified requirements and properly integrate with interfacing products.

VETO - The signal from an individual ACD scintillator tile that indicates an energy deposit of at least  $\sim 0.3$  MIP ( $\sim 500$  keV) in an ACD scintillator tile, or about 20% of that amount in one of the scintillating fiber ribbons. This threshold is set to be exceeded for a very high fraction of MIPs in the presence of all fluctuations in their energy deposit in the scintillator tiles. The VETO signals from individual tiles and ribbons are combined with information from the tracker and calorimeter to decide whether or not to reject events as background.

## 4 APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

Documents that are relevant to the development of the ACD concept and its requirements include the following:



LAT-SS-00010, "GLAST LAT Performance Specification", August 2000

LAT-SS-00047, "LAT Mechanical Performance Specification"

"GLAST Large Area Telescope Flight Investigation: An Astro-Particle Physics Partnership  
Exploring the High-Energy Universe", proposal to NASA, P. Michelson, PI, November, 1999

LAT-ACD Subsystem Mechanical Interface Control Document, LAT-DS-00241

## **5 REQUIREMENTS**

### **5.1 System Description**

The LAT science instrument (SI) consists of an Anticoincidence Device (ACD), a silicon-strip detector tracker (TKR), a hodoscopic CsI calorimeter (CAL), and a Trigger and Dataflow system (T&DF). The principal purpose of the SI is to measure the incidence direction, energy and time of cosmic gamma rays. The measurements are streamed to the spacecraft for data storage and subsequent transmittal to ground-based analysis centers.

The ACD detects energetic cosmic ray electrons and nuclei for the purpose of removing these backgrounds. It is the principle source for detection of other than gamma-ray particles. This detector element covers the TKR. It consists of an array of 89 plastic scintillator tiles (1 cm thick, various sizes), plus 8 scintillating fiber "ribbons" that cover the gaps between the tiles. Each tile is read out by two PMT's. Signals produced by the ACD are used by the T&DF system to identify cosmic ray electrons and nuclei entering the instrument.

### **5.2 Detection of Charged Particles**

The ACD shall detect energy deposits with energies of above an adjustable threshold nominally at 0.3 MIP (minimum ionizing particle) and produce VETO signals.

### **5.3 Adjustable Threshold on Detecting Charged Particle**

The threshold for VETO detection of charged particles shall be adjustable from 0.1 to 0.6 MIP, with a step size of  $\leq 0.05$  MIP.

### **5.4 Detection Efficiency**

The average detection efficiency for minimum ionizing particles shall be at least 0.9997 over the entire area of the ACD (except for the bottom tiles on each side, for which the efficiency shall be at least TBD).

### **5.5 Instrument Coverage**

The ACD shall cover the top and sides of the LAT tracker down to the top of the CsI.

The top of all 4 sides of the ACD scintillator shall be extended upward so as to be at least as high as the highest point in the micrometeoroid/debris shield.

### **5.6 Mean Thickness**

The ACD, support structure, and micrometeorite shield shall have a mean thickness less than 0.04 radiation lengths.

## **5.7 False VETO due to Backsplash**

The ACD shall be segmented so that no more than 20% of otherwise-accepted gamma-ray events at 300 GeV shall be rejected by false VETOES due to calorimeter backslash.

## **5.8 False VETO due to Electrical Noise**

The false VETO signal rate due to noise shall result in a rejection of no more than 1% of triggered gamma rays.

## **5.9 High-Threshold Detection**

The ACD shall detect highly-ionizing particles (carbon-nitrogen-oxygen or heavier nuclei, denoted High-Threshold) depositing energy greater than 25 MIPs and shall provide a signal to the ACD TEM.

## **5.10 Adjustable High-Threshold**

The High-Threshold shall be adjustable from 20 to 30 MIP in steps of  $\leq 1$  MIP.

## **5.11 Signals**

### **5.11.1 Fast VETO Signal**

For each ACD PMT, a fast VETO signal shall be generated when the its VETO threshold is exceeded.

### **5.11.2 Fast VETO Signal Latency**

The fast VETO signal latency shall be 50-700 nsec from the time of particle passage, including jitter.

### **5.11.3 Logic VETO Signal**

A map of the tiles that produce VETO signals shall be generated for each Level 1 Trigger Acknowledge.

### **5.11.4 Logic VETO Signal Latency**

The map of VETO signals shall be latched by the time the ADC's conversions are completed.

### **5.11.5 Logic VETO Signal Timing**

The logic VETO map shall represent the triggering of all ACD discriminators at the time of the particle passage ( $\pm 300$  ns TBD) causing the Level 1 Trigger Acknowledge.

#### **5.11.6 Fast VETO Signal Width**

The fast VETO output signal shall be longer than the time for baseline recovery to within 0.05 MIP of original baseline to prevent "change of threshold" for following VETOs.

#### **5.11.7 Fast VETO Recovery Time for Large Signals**

For a signal equivalent to 1000 MIP's, the fast VETO signal shall be no longer than 10 microseconds.

Note: An iron nucleus gives a signal of approximately (due to saturation effects)  
 $0.5 * Z^2 * \sec(\text{angle wrt normal to the scintillator})$ .

#### **5.11.8 High-Threshold Signal Latency**

A highly-ionizing particle hitting the top or upper side row of tiles of the ACD shall produce a High-Threshold fast signal that will be delivered to the hardware trigger logic with latency of no more than the latency as defined for the fast VETO in specification 5.11.2.

#### **5.11.9 ACD Trigger Primitives**

The ACD will produce no trigger primitives internally. The VETO signals caused by the individual PMT's will be transmitted to the ACD TEM, where they will be OR'ed together (for each tile or ribbon), and used by the TEM to generate trigger primitives.

### **5.12 Performance Monitoring and Calibration**

The ACD electronics shall collect and transmit sufficient pulse height, and temperature information to monitor the status and performance of the ACD system and maintain its calibration to 5%. The ACD TEM will generate and transmit count rates for ACD signals. A low-threshold signal will allow zero suppression of the pulse height data transmission to the data acquisition system. ACD voltages and currents will be monitored on the LAT side of the interface.

#### **5.12.1 Low-Threshold Signal**

The ACD shall detect energy deposits above an adjustable threshold nominally at 0.1 MIP and produce Low-Threshold signals.

#### **5.12.2 Low-Threshold Adjustability**

The Low-Threshold shall be adjustable from 0.05 to 0.3 MIP, with a step size of  $\leq 0.05$  MIP.

#### **5.12.3 Signal Content**

When a Level 1 Trigger Acknowledge is received, the ACD electronics shall collect and transmit sufficient information to determine the pulse height up to 200 MIP with the following precision:

- for a pulse below 10 MIP, precision of  $<0.02$  MIP or 5%, whichever is larger;
- for a pulse above 10 MIP, precision of  $<1$  MIP or 2%, whichever is larger.

#### **5.12.4 Pulse Digitization**

Upon a Level 1 Trigger Acknowledge, all tile and ribbon pulses shall be digitized.

#### **5.12.5 Pulse Height Measurement Latency**

The pulse height measurements shall be completed and transmitted to the ACD-TEM within 18.5 microseconds after a Level 1 Trigger Acknowledge is received.

### **5.13 Reliability - Electronics**

No single failure in the ACD electronics shall result in the loss of signal from both PMT's on any single tile.

### **5.14 Reliability - Tiles**

The loss of any one detector element (tile or ribbon) shall not result in the loss of any other element.

### **5.15 Reliability - Electronics**

The probability of the loss of both VETO signals from any scintillator tile due to electronics failures shall be less than 2% in 5 years. The probability of the loss of VETO signals from any scintillator ribbon due to electronics failures shall be less than 10% in 5 years.

### **5.16 Reliability - Mechanical/Optical**

The probability of the loss of both VETO signals from any scintillator tile due to mechanical or optical failures shall be less than 1% in 5 years. The probability of the loss of VETO signals from any scintillator ribbon due to mechanical or optical failures shall be less than 5% in 5 years.

### **5.17 Commands**

#### **5.17.1 Detector On/Off Commands**

The ACD shall implement commands to allow each group of 18 PMT's to be separately powered on and off.

#### **5.17.2 Detector Gain Commands**

The ACD shall implement commands to allow the high voltage of each group of 18 PMT's to be separately adjusted.

### **5.17.3 Electronics On/Off Commands**

The ACD shall implement commands to allow each redundant set of electronics to be separately powered on and off.

### **5.17.4 VETO Threshold Commands**

The ACD shall implement commands to set the VETO threshold for each PMT.

### **5.17.5 High-Threshold Commands**

The ACD shall implement commands to set the High-Threshold for each PMT.

### **5.17.6 ACD Monitoring Commands**

The ACD shall implement commands to allow the Instrument Operator to adjust the monitoring functions of the ACD electronics, including the Low-Threshold for each PMT.

### **5.17.7 Low-Gain Mode Commands**

The ACD shall implement commands to switch the ACD PMT's into and out of low-gain mode for high counting rate conditions.

## **5.18 Power Consumption**

The ACD total electronics power consumption shall not exceed 31 W (conditioned power).

## **5.19 Mass**

The total mass of the ACD and micrometeoroid shield shall not exceed 205 kg.

## **5.20 Center of Gravity**

The center of gravity of the ACD and micrometeoroid shield shall be located within 400 mm of the top of the mechanical grid structure.

## **5.21 Environmental**

The ACD shall meet the structural and thermal environment requirements defined in the LAT-ACD Subsystem Mechanical Interface Control Document, LAT-DS-00241.

## **5.22 Physical Size**

The dimensions of the ACD plus the micrometeoroid shield shall conform to the requirements in the LAT-ACD Subsystem Mechanical Interface Control Document, LAT-DS-00241.

## **5.23 Thermal Blanket/Micrometeoroid Shield**

### **5.23.1 Areal Mass Density**

The thermal blanket/micrometeoroid shield shall have mass per unit area  $<0.32 \text{ g/cm}^2$  in order to minimize secondary gamma-ray production by undetected cosmic ray interactions.

### **5.23.2 Micrometeoroid Protection**

The thermal blanket/micrometeoroid shield shall minimize the probability that micrometeoroids and space debris will penetrate and create a light path to the ACD scintillators. The mean rate of such penetrations over the entire shield shall be less than 0.01/year.

### **5.23.3 Thermal Control**

The thermal blanket/micrometeoroid shield shall have thermal properties (absorptance, reflectance, and transmittance) as required to maintain the temperatures described in the LAT-ACD Subsystem Mechanical Interface Control Document, LAT-DS-00241.

## **5.24 Performance Life**

The ACD shall maintain the specified performance for a minimum of five years in orbit.

## **5.25 Operation in High Rate Conditions**

The ACD photomultiplier bias supplies shall switch into a low-gain mode to protect the phototubes in very high intensity particle conditions ( $> 10 \text{ kHz}$  in an individual tile) such as the South Atlantic Anomaly. The ACD requires a source(s) of the SAA entry and exit signals from elsewhere, either the LAT TEM or the Spacecraft.

### **5.25.1 Notification of Mode Change**

The ACD shall identify times when it switches into low-gain mode for high counting rate conditions.

### **5.25.2 Rate Requirement for Operation within Specification**

Each ACD PMT and its associated electronics shall be capable of operating within the specifications above at MIP rates up to 3 kHz.

## **6 VERIFICATION STRATEGY**

The verification strategy will test, analyze (may include modeling/simulation), inspect, or demonstrate all requirements of section 5 to ensure that the instrument meets the requirements of this specification. The matrix below indicates the methods of verification employed to verify the science performance.

**Table 6-1. Requirements Verification Matrix**

Note: Verification methods are T = Test, A = Analysis, D = Demonstrate, I = Inspect

| Req't # | Title  | Summary   | Verif. Method |
|---------|--|---|---------------|
| 5.2     | Detection of Charged Particles                     | The ACD shall detect energy deposits with energies of above an adjustable threshold nominally at 0.3 MIP (minimum ionizing particle) and produce VETO signals.  | T             |
| 5.3     | Adjustable Threshold on Detecting Charged Particle | The threshold for VETO detection of charged particles shall be adjustable from 0.1 to 0.6 MIP, with a step size of $\leq 0.05$ MIP.   | T             |
| 5.4     | Detection Efficiency                               | The average detection efficiency for minimum ionizing particles shall be at least 0.9997 over the entire area of the ACD (except for the bottom tiles on each side, for which the efficiency shall be at least TBD).                                | T, A          |
| 5.5     | Instrument Coverage                                | The ACD shall cover the top and sides of the LAT tracker down to the top of the Csl. The top of all 4 sides of the ACD scintillator shall be extended upward so as to be at least as high as the highest point in the micrometeoroid/debris shield. | I             |
| 5.6     | Mean Thickness                                     | The ACD, support structure, and micrometeorite shield shall have a mean thickness less than 0.04 radiation lengths.   | A             |
| 5.7     | False VETO due to Backsplash                       | The ACD shall be segmented so that no more than 20% of otherwise-accepted gamma-ray events at 300 GeV shall be rejected by false VETOES due to calorimeter backsplash.  | A             |
| 5.8     | False VETO due to Electrical Noise                 | The false VETO signal rate due to noise shall result in a rejection of no more than 1% of triggered gamma rays.   | A             |
| 5.9     | High-Threshold Detection                           | The ACD shall detect highly-ionizing particles (carbon-nitrogen-oxygen or heavier nuclei, denoted High-Threshold) depositing energy greater than 25 times a MIP and shall provide a signal to the ACD TEM.  | A             |
| 5.10    | Adjustable High-Threshold                          | The High-Threshold shall be adjustable from 20 to 30 MIP in steps of $\leq 1$ MIP.  | A             |
| 5.11.1  | Fast VETO Signal                                   | For each PMT, a fast VETO signal shall be generated when the its VETO threshold is exceeded.  | D             |
| 5.11.2  | Fast VETO Signal Latency                           | The fast VETO signal latency shall be 50-700 nsec from the time of particle passage, including jitter.  | T             |
| 5.11.3  | Logic VETO Signal                                  | A map of the tiles that produce VETO signals shall be generated for each Level 1 Trigger Acknowledge.   | D             |
| 5.11.4  | Logic VETO Signal Latency                          | The map of VETO signals shall be latched by the time the ADC's conversions are completed  | T             |
| 5.11.5  | Logic VETO Signal Timing                           | The logic VETO map shall represent the triggering of all ACD discriminators at the time of the particle passage ( $\pm 300$ ns TBD) causing the Level 1 Trigger Acknowledge.  | T             |
| 5.11.6  | Fast VETO Signal Width                             | The fast VETO output signal shall be longer than the time for baseline recovery to within 0.05 MIP of original baseline to prevent "change of threshold" for following VETOes.  | T             |
| 5.11.7  | Fast VETO Recovery Time for Large Signals          | For a signal equivalent to 200 MIP's, the fast VETO signal shall be no longer than 10 microseconds.   | D             |



| Req't # | Title                            | Summary  | Verif. Method |
|---------|----------------------------------|--|---------------|
| 5.11.8  | High-Threshold Signal Latency    | A highly-ionizing particle hitting the top or upper side row of tiles of the ACD shall produce a High-Threshold fast signal that will be delivered to the hardware trigger logic with latency of no more than the latency defined for fast VETO in specification 5.11.2  | A             |
| 5.11.9  | ACD Trigger Primitives           | The ACD will produce no trigger primitives internally. The VETO signals caused by the individual PMT's will be transmitted to the ACD TEM's, where they will be OR'ed together (for each tile or ribbon), and used by the the TEM's to generate trigger primitives.  | T             |
| 5.12    | ACD Performance Monitoring       | The ACD electronics shall collect and transmit sufficient pulse height, and temperature information to monitor the status and performance of the ACD system and maintain its calibration to 5%. The ACD TEM's will generate and transmit count rates for ACD signals. A low-threshold signal will allow zero suppression of the pulse height data transmission to the data acquisition system. ACD voltages and currents will be monitored on the LAT side of the interface. | D             |
| 5.12.1  | Low-Threshold Signal             | The ACD shall detect energy deposits above an adjustable threshold nominally at 0.1 MIP and produce Low-Threshold signals.   | D             |
| 5.12.2  | Low-Threshold Adjustability      | The Low-Threshold shall be adjustable from 0.05 to 0.3 MIP, with a step size of $\leq 0.05$ MIP.   | D             |
| 5.12.3  | Signal Content                   | When a Level 1 Trigger Acknowledge is received, the ACD electronics shall collect and transmit sufficient information to determine the pulse height up to 200 MIP with the following precision: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- for a pulse below 10 MIP, precision of <math>&lt; 0.02</math> MIP or 5%, whichever is larger;</li> <li>- for a pulse above 10 MIP, precision of <math>&lt; 1</math> MIP or 2%, whichever is larger.</li> </ul>                      | D             |
| 5.12.4  | Pulse Digitization               | Upon a Level 1 Trigger Acknowledge, all tile and ribbon pulses shall be digitized.   |               |
| 5.12.5  | Pulse Height Measurement Latency | The pulse height measurements shall be completed and transmitted within 18.5 microseconds after a Level 1 trigger is received.   |               |
| 5.13    | Reliability - Electronics        | No single failure in the ACD electronics shall result in the loss of signal from both PMT's on any single tile...  | A             |
| 5.14    | Reliability - Tiles              | The loss of any one detector element (tile or ribbon) shall not result in the loss of any other element.   | A             |
| 5.15    | Reliability - Electronics        | The probability of the loss of both VETO signals from any scintillator tile due to electronics failures shall be less than 1% in 5 years. The probability of the loss of VETO signals from any scintillator ribbon due to electronics failures shall be less than 5% in 5 years.   | A             |
| 5.16    | Reliability - Mechanical/Optical | The probability of the loss of both VETO signals from any scintillator tile due to mechanical or optical failures shall be less than 1% in 5 years. The probability of the loss of VETO signals from any scintillator ribbon due to mechanical or optical failures shall be less than 5% in 5 years.   | A             |

| Req't # | Title  | Summary   | Verif. Method |
|---------|--|---|---------------|
| 5.17.1  | Detector On/Off Commands   | The ACD shall implement commands to allow each group of 18 PMT's to be separately powered on and off.   | T             |
| 5.17.2  | Detector Gain Commands   | The ACD shall implement commands to allow the gain of each group of 18 PMT's to be separately adjusted.   | T             |
| 5.17.3  | Electronics On/Off Commands  | The ACD shall implement commands to allow each redundant set of electronics to be separately powered on and off.  | T, D          |
| 5.17.4  | VETO Threshold Commands  | The ACD shall implement commands to set the VETO threshold for each PMT.  | T, D          |
| 5.17.5  | High-Threshold Commands  | The ACD shall implement commands to set the High-Threshold for each PMT.  | T, D          |
| 5.17.6  | ACD Monitoring Commands  | The ACD shall implement commands to allow the Instrument Operator to adjust the monitoring functions of the ACD electronics, including the Low-Threshold for each PMT.  | T, A          |
| 5.17.7  | Low-Gain Mode Commands   | The ACD shall implement commands to switch the ACD PMT's into and out of low-gain mode for high counting rate conditions.   | T             |
| 5.18    | Power Consumption  | The ACD total electronics power consumption shall not exceed 37 W.  | D, A          |
| 5.19    | Mass   | The total mass of the ACD and micrometeoroid shield shall not exceed 205 kg.  | D             |
| 5.20    | Center of Gravity  | The center of gravity of the ACD and micrometeoroid shield shall be located within 400 mm of the top of the mechanical grid structure.  | T             |
| 5.21    | Environmental  | The ACD shall meet the structural and thermal environment requirements defined in the LAT-ACD Interface Control Document, LAT-SS- <b>TBR</b> .  | T, D, A       |
| 5.22    | Physical Size  | The dimensions of the ACD plus the micrometeoroid shield shall conform to the requirements in the Interface Control Document, LAT-SS- <b>TBR</b> .  | D             |
| 5.23.1  | Thermal Blanket/<br>Micrometeoroid<br>Shield Areal Mass<br>Density | The thermal blanket/micrometeoroid shield shall have mass per unit area $<0.32 \text{ g/cm}^2$ in order to minimize secondary gamma-ray production by undetected cosmic ray interactions.   | D, A          |
| 5.23.2  | Micrometeoroid<br>Protection                                       | The thermal blanket/micrometeoroid shield shall minimize the probability that micrometeoroids and space debris will penetrate and create a light path to the ACD scintillators. The mean rate of such penetrations over the entire shield shall be less than 0.01/  | A             |
| 5.23.3  | Thermal Control  | The thermal blanket/micrometeoroid shield shall have thermal properties (absorptance, reflectance, and transmittance) as required to maintain the temperatures described in the LAT Interface Control Document, LAT-SS- <b>TBR</b> .  | A             |
| 5.24    | Performance Life   | The ACD shall maintain the specified performance for a minimum of five years in orbit.  | A             |
| 5.25    | Operation in High<br>Rate Conditions                               | The ACD photomultiplier bias supplies shall switch into a low-gain mode to protect the phototubes in very high intensity particle conditions ( $> 10 \text{ kHz}$ in an individual tile) such as the South Atlantic Anomaly. The ACD requires a source(s) of the SAA entry and exit signals from elsewhere, either the LAT TEM or the Spacecraft. | A             |

| Req't # | Title   | Summary  | Verif. Method |
|---------|---|--|---------------|
| 5.25.1  | Notification of Mode Change                         | The ACD shall identify times when it switches into low-gain mode for high counting rate conditions.                                | D, T          |
| 5.25.2  | Rate Requirement for Operation within Specification | Each ACD PMT and its associated electronics shall be capable of operating within the specifications above at MIP rates up to 3 kHz | D, T          |